

Chudar invited to the CII- UNICEF Regional Summit

Dr. A Ravishankar Founder & CEO of Chudar was invited to speak at the UNICEF Regional Summit on Quality & Sustainable Education held by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on 18th July 2019. Inspired by the United Nations SDG Goal 4, the event generated a dialogue on quality education. The conference converged education stakeholders within academia, policy advocacy, educational development implementation, and others.

Dr. Ravishankar spoke on "Complexities of Execution of Quality Education Agenda," as one of the panelists. He put forth the challenges in reforming the rote memorization approach prevalent in the system and its significance in ensuring quality education, while explaining how Chudar is working towards breaking these shackles by building confidence in children through conceptual learning as well as aligning the goals to the needs of the present curriculum in Tamilnadu schools.



Chudar joins hands with Government Schools in Thiruporur to improve quality.

The Government Partnership Program for this academic year kick started on 24th July with Chudar representatives visiting the Block Resource Centre in Thiruporur and initiating Government teachers into the Chudar Program. Teachers from 15 Schools across the block participated in the one day training. During the training, Chudar representatives relayed the overbearing stress students undergo to excel in school, an issue escalated by the ultimate ineffectiveness of rote-memorization skills. Activity kits would instead enhance critical conceptual skills.

While speaking about the program's past results, representatives acknowledged specific teachers and people in the room for their impact on the program. Chudar then awarded the teachers from schools that exhibited the most improvement in the students' performance of the previous year.



Beginning of the 2nd Academic year @ Spectrum School Tenkasi

On July 15th, Nivedha, Manju and Sruti our intern from Emory University travelled to Spectrum Matriculation Higher Secondary School in Tenkasi to present the initial evaluation results of the students from (6th to 8th grade) the Math teachers as well as observe classes to get an idea of how Chudar activity kits were being used. The Spectrum School teachers not only found the session useful in assessing the present levels of children at the beginning of the academic year but also took this opportunity to share their feedback on the materials and Math worksheets.



Drawing Competition held @ ICF Chudar centre

A drawing competition for the children on 'Nature and Clean India' as the theme was conducted at the Chudar ICF centre in July. The Children expressed their artistic talents and imagination with a myriad of colours and impressed the spectators. Mr. Rajan from the Oxford University Press gave away the prizes for the best drawings. The children and their parents also enjoyed participating in the games based on Science and Math.



Serendipity at its best!

From Adambakkam we took a ride to Alanthur Municipality school in an auto. What is that saying again? "The Best things happen Unexpectedly." We went there to distribute the worksheets but ended up initiating a math focus class. The faces of the students lit up once we entered the classroom. Their math teacher listened to us patiently and was intrigued by our math kit. Moreover, she wanted her students to try out the worksheets immediately. From the silent girl in the corner to the chatter box in the classroom, everyone was completely interested in the activity. Their enthusiasm doubled when we explained them about the "Chudar Declaration." It posed as an incentive to kindle excitement in the classroom atmosphere. There was a healthy competition between the girls and boys of the class and the teacher encouraged them. As Ms. Nivetha was saying, it was surprising to see them perform so well as compared to other schools. They all had a knack for the bracket sums. Some of the girls wanted to try out multiplication of integers and were urging us to teach. At that moment, I realized we were doing something meaningful. -Sneha



When Sneha Saravanan, a student from the Indian School of Business and Finance was searching for fulfilling opportunities during her vacation, little did she know that she would get to intern with Chudar that would go on to become one of her most cherished experiences. According to Sneha, NGOs provide a portal to common individuals to address social and political issues present in society and provides a sense of accomplishment. Recounting her time at Chudar, she says found such a sense of accomplishment be it, while creating academic resources for children or her visits to schools, as she felt vitalized and propelled by the enthusiasm of the students around her. For Sneha, Chudar is not just any NGO but an exemplary one, defined by its committed employees. She thanks the Chudar staff and Dr. A Ravishankar for the wonderful opportunity.

We wish you all the very best in all your endeavours Sneha!!